# Correctional Nursing

Is it for You?



#### What Do Correctional Nurses Do?

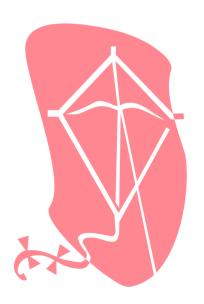
Correctional nursing is never boring

There are a variety of clinical services provided within the field of correctional nursing and within the Montana Department of Corrections.

 Within each, you utilize all of your professional and communication skills.

#### **Correctional Medical Services**

- New inmate intake assessments
- Urgent/Emergent Care
- Inpatient Care for acutely ill, post-operative, mental health crisis and hospice patients.
- "Kites"-sick call performed daily by nursing staff
- Pill pass-administration of unit dosed medications, distribute blister packs of KOP meds
- Outpatient Clinic



### **Correctional Medical Services**

- Hands-on treatments and procedures:
  - Dressing changes
  - Splint applications
  - Blood draws
  - Nebulizer treatments
  - Suture removals
  - Teaching
  - Identify the "mystery med"
  - My personal favorite Cell Extractions



# Correctional Health Care Professionals

- Physicians (M.D. and D.O.)
- Mid-level practitioners (P.A. and F.N.P.)
- RN
- LPN
- Correctional Health Service Technicians (CHST)
- Support Staff (Pharmacy, Med Records, Scheduling, etc)

# Correctional Health Care Professionals

- Dental
- Physical Therapy
- Optometry
- Mental Health
- X-ray
- Specialists: Cardiology,
  Neurology, Surgical, Urology



### Safety and Security



- In all areas correctional staff are present to monitor staff safety and inmate security.
- You know who your dealing with, you don't with a stranger walking into an ER off the street.
- Education about proper use of tools, keys, sharps, and relating to inmates provided to all staff.
- Inmates are grateful for care provided and they respond well to being treated respectfully.

### Autonomy

- A high degree of autonomy is unique to Correctional Nursing
  - Initial contact for urgent/emergent care where nursing evaluates need for physician care or follow up appointments
  - Telephone triage with correctional staff
  - Sick call protocols to determine need to refer to provider appointments
  - Emergency Response teams



### Inmate Populations



- Male, Female, and Juvenile Facilities
- Housing units vary in number of inmates, security levels, medical care needs
- From young and health to the elderly and physically disabled
- Chronically ill Cardiac, Respiratory,
  Diabetes, Dialysis, Hepatitis, HIV, and more

# How is Correctional Nursing different?

The correctional setting poses unique dilemmas for professional nurses accustomed to working in traditional health care settings where the purpose and mission are care. Correctional Nurses accept the fundamental mission of a correctional facility is public safety and security. While the delivery of health care is an important component of the correctional facility, it is not the reason the facility exists.

# How is Correctional Nursing different?

- Correctional nurses are pioneers in the delivery of care to one of the most under serviced populations in America.
- Correctional nurses deliver care to a population not only in great health need, but in great human need. This population may come from an environment characterized by poor health care, economic hardships, and fragmented family relationships.



NYCHA-Spotlight.com

#### Montana State Prison

The institution is designated to maintain a population of approx 1500 Adult Male offenders that are classified to one of six custody levels (Max, Close, Medium I, Medium II, Minimum I, and Minimum II). There are approximately 600 employees of which 320 are uniformed staff. The physical plant consist of three compounds, Max, High Side, and Low Side, which are contained within a 68 acre double fenced perimeter. Outside the fenced perimeter is an 80 bed Work Dorm that houses Minimum custody inmates that work on a 35,000-acre ranch and dairy program operated by Montana Correctional Enterprises.







- 24 hour nursing coverage with 12 hour shifts
- Staff: 12 RN, 8 LPN and 12 Support (CHST/Office)
- 13 bed in-house Infirmary
- Trauma Room
- Exam Rooms
- Max, High, and Low Side Satellite Clinics
- Pharmacy
- Clinic 5-7 days a week
- Medical Records and Scheduling
- Martz Diagnostic Intake Unit Nurses Station
- Future plans: Possible Work Dorm Nurses Station and TSCTC coverage

# Infirmary









# Infirmary











# Correctional Nursing Evolution



- Continually evolving as a service field:
  - Standards created by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care or American Correctional Association constantly reviewed and revised
  - NCCHC: Correctional Health Professional Certification (CCHP and CCHP-A)
  - ACA: Certified Corrections Nurse Manager (CCN/M) and Certified Corrections Nurse (CCN)
  - Court recognition to the legal rights of the incarcerated to care, starting with Estelle v Gamble in 1976 to current litigation country wide.



#### Do you possess knowledge of:

- Standardized patient care
- Public health principles and concepts
- Basic medical terminology and equipment
- Latest nursing techniques and practices
- Dynamics of multi-interpersonal relationships



#### Is it for You?

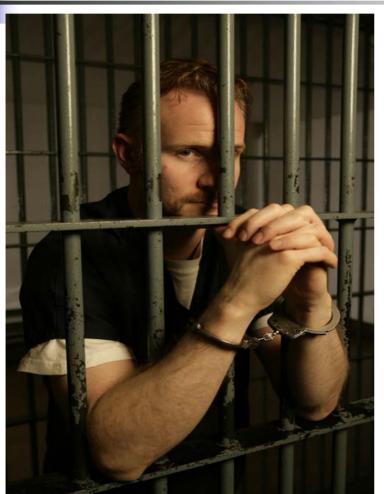
#### Can you:

- Respond to emergency situations,
- Work effectively with others,
- Assume responsibility for professional growth and development,
- Possess excellent oral and written communication skills,
- Know where your keys are every second of the day?





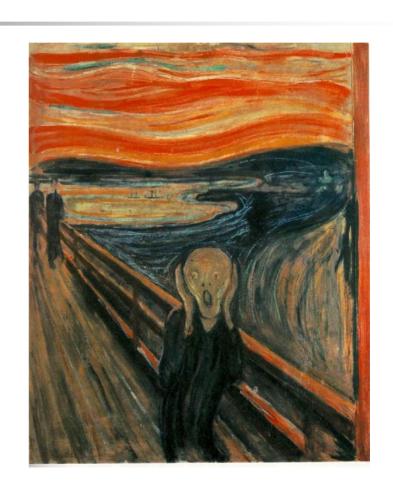
### Is it for You?



Finally, as a correctional nurse you are required to maintain regular contact with convicted felons. You must be prepared for possible hostile interactions and dangerous situations and must be able to respond appropriately. MSP and all correctional nurses are provided with up to the date training to ensure they can function as a nurse in a non-medical environment.



What's Wrong with you?



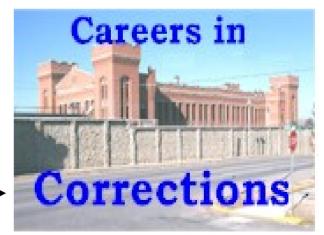
### Still Interested?

 MSP offers a nursing graduate program with extended orientation and mentorship

 Continuing education, BLS, ACLS provided to nurses at no charge

 Contact MSP Human Relations at 846-1320, ext 2202

www.cor.mt.gov ———





# The End...





...Or is it the beginning of a Correctional Nursing Career?



# Questions